

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 04622 210959 Z

12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 T-03

DPW-01 IO-12 EUR-25 RSR-01 /121 W

----- 108829

R 210710 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8949

USDEL FRANCE

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

UMJNE/ AMCONSUL NHA TRANG 210

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 4622

E. O. : GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SPOT REPORT MR I: ENEMY ATTACKS
NEAR PROPOSED PRISONER EXCHANGE SITE IN DUC PHO DISTRICT,
QUANG NGAI

FOL TEL FROM DANANG SENT ACTION SAIGON MAR 21, 1973 RPTD FOR YOUR
INFO:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 252

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, VS

SUBJ: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SPOT REPORT MR I: ENEMY ATTACKS
NEAR PROPOSED PRISONER EXCHANGE SITE IN DUC PHO DISTRICT,
QUANG NGAI

1. ON MARCH 18, ENEMY GUNNERS FIRED THIRTEEN MORTAR ROUNDS
INTO HUNG NGHIA HAMLET (BS 735449) NEAR THE SITE OF THE PROPOSED
PRISONER EXCHANGE SITE IN SOUTHERN QUANG NGAI, KILLING AND
WOUNDING SEVERAL MEMBERS OF A GVN RECPETION COMMITTEE WHICH WAS
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PAGE 02 SAIGON 04622 210959 Z

AWAITING THE EXPECTED ARRIVAL OF ICCS AND FPJMC REPRESENTATIVES FROM DANANG. TWO MORTAR BARRAGES HIT HUNG NGHIA BETWEEN 1125 AND 1150 HOWRNEWBQTHWWSECOND KILLED ONE MILITARY POLICEMAN AND WOUNDED SEVEN OTHER PERSONS, INCLUDING THREE NATIONAL POLICEMEN, TWO MILITARY POLICEMEN, ONE SECTOR STAFF OFFICER, AND ONE CIVILIAN. THE MO DUC AND DUC PHO DISTRICT CHIEFS WHO WERE ALSO SAID TO BE AT HUNG NGHIA AT THE TIME ESCAPED INJURY. PROVINCE CHIEF COL NGO VAN LOI REPORTEDLY DENIED A REQUEST FROM GVN TROOPS IN THE AREA TO RETURN THE ENEMY FIRE.

2. THE ATTACK TOOK PLACE WHILE ICCS AND FPJMC REPRESENTATIVES WERE MEETING IN DANANG TO DISCUSS THE PRG/ DRV ALLEGATION THAT THE GVN HAD COMMITTED CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS IN THE AREA ON MARCH 11 WHICH HAD FORCED THE LAST MINUTE CANCELLATION OF THE PRISONER EXCHANGE SCHEDULED FOR THAT DAY. GVN OFFICIALS IN QUANG NGAI HAD BEEN ALERTED TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE REPRESENTATIVES, WHO HAD VISITED THE HUNG NGHIA AREA ON MARCH 15, MIGHT RETURN TO THE SITE MARCH 18 TO COMPLETE THEIR ON-THE-GROUND INVESTIGATION. DESPITE THE MORTAR ATTACKS, GVN OFFICIALS WAITED AT HUNG NGHIA UNTIL 1500 HOURS BEFORE LEARNING THAT THE ICCS AND FPJMC DELEGATIONS HAD DECIDED NOT TO MAKE THE TRIP.

3. ON THE NIGHT OF MARCH 19, ENEMY TROOPS REPORTEDLY INFILTRATED GVN DEFENCES AROUND HUNG NGHIA AND LOBBED GRENADES INTO AN ARVN 39 TH RANGER BATTALION ENCAMPMENT, KILLING TWO RANGERS AND WOUNDING TWO OTHERS.

4. COLONEL LOI HAS INSTRUCTED HIS DEPUTY FOR SECURITY TO PREPARE A FULL REPORT ON THE INCIDENTS AND PLANS TO SUBMIT A FORMAL CEASEFIRE VIOLATION COMPLAINT TO THE ICCS THROUGH THE GVN/FPJMC REPRESENTATIVE AT CHU LAI.

BROWN
QUNQUOTE
BUNKER

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TAGS: MILI, PINS, PINT, VS
To: BIEN HOA
CAN THO
EA
FRANCE
NHA TRANG
SECSTATE WASHDC

Type: TE

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